

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): William Bush et al.

Title: THREAD SUSPENSION SYSTEM AND METHOD USING TRAPPING INSTRUCTIONS

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Examiner: Mary J. Steelman

Group Art Unit: 2191

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**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the clarification of 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(c)(10) set forth in 1247 OG 111 (June 26, 2001), the submission of this paper after a Notice of Allowance has been mailed is *not* considered a “failure to engage in reasonable efforts” to conclude processing or examination of an application and would *not* result in reduction of a patent term adjustment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(c)(10). *Simply stated, this paper is not to be treated as a “paper submitted after the mailing of a Notice of Allowance” under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(c)(10).*

Applicant appreciates the Examiner’s reasons for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are allowable because the art of record fails to teach or suggest, alone or in combination, the invention described in at least each of the independent claims.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

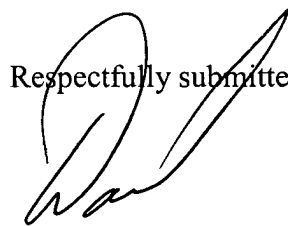
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Respectfully submitted,



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